

Message Text

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53

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00

NSAE-00 USIA-15 PA-02 PRS-01 /035 W

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R 071427Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 995

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

UNCLAS BELFAST 256

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CVIS

SUBJECT: CVIS: PARTICIPANTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND
EDUCATIONAL FORUM

REF: BELFAST'S 252 AUGUST 1, 1975 AND BELFAST'S 22
JULY 23, 1975 TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

1. LOCAL AND BBC NATIONAL SERVICE RADIO NEWS BROADCASTS
HAVE REPORTED VARIOUSLY THAT (A) THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS NOT
GOING TO REVERSE ITSELF AND GRANT VISAS TO THOSE PREVIOUSLY
REFUSED IN ORDER FOR THEM TO ATTEND THE IRISH FORUM.
(B) IN THIS ONE CASE THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS GOING TO REVERSE
ITS PREVIOUS POSITION AND ALLOW THE DRUMM'S ETC. TO ATTEND
THE CONFERENCE. (C) A "STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IN
WASHINGTON" HAS INDICATED THAT NO DECISION WILL BE
REACHED UNTIL LATE NEXT WEEK.

2. AMCONSUL BELFAST HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS
(LOCAL, DUBLIN, LONDON AND U.S. WIRESERVICES) FOR COMMENT ON
THESE REPORTS TO WHICH THE REPLY HAS BEEN THAT EACH CASE IS
CONSIDERED IN WASHINGTON INDIVIDUALLY AND ON ITS OWN MERITS
AND THAT THE ONLY WORD WE HAVE HEARD CONCERNING A DECISION
IN THESE CASES HAS BEEN THE NEWS REPORTS.

3. IF STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS HAVE BEEN MADE IN WASHINGTON,
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HOWEVER, (THOUGH THE LACK OF WASHINGTON STATEMENTS, HAS NOT

IN THE PAST DETERRED LOCAL NEWS SPECULATION) WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF WHATEVER PRESS GUIDANCE IS ISSUED.

4. LIKEWISE, AS EARLY A DECISION AS POSSIBLE ON THE POLICY TOWARD THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE APPRECIATED. NO MATTER WHAT THAT DECISION IS, HOWEVER, LOCAL PRESS INTEREST IS SUFFICIENTLY HIGH THAT PRESS GUIDANCE ON COMMENTING ON THE DECISION WOULD BE HELPFUL.

ROY

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